

Remarks

The applicants have noted the objections to the drawings. The applicants have deleted reference numerals 3 and 4 in the specification since it is not believed these reference numerals are necessary to understand the drawings. It is believed that this amendment obviates the need for an amendment to the drawings.

The applicants have also amended paragraphs 69 to 71 to refer to the functional block 5 as being an equation operator, which in the case of Figure 8, is specifically an adder, but in the case of Figures 9 and 10 may more generally be any equation. It is believed that this amendment is clear and obviates the need to amend the drawings. Clearly an addition is one specific form of a mathematical equation, and it is therefore appropriate to show this block in Figure 8 with a plus sign.

With regard to claims 3 and 4, it is noted that the cut-off frequency is defined in functional terms. It has to be high enough or low enough for the recited events to occur. It is respectfully submitted that a person skilled in the art could determine this frequency by routine experimentation with the benefit of the teaching of the invention without undue burden. The actual frequency may vary according to the nature of the input signal, so a functional limitation on how high or how low the actual value should be is more meaningful than a numerical limitation. Accordingly, it respectfully submitted that claims 3 and 4 comply with 35 USC 112. See, for example, *In re Barr*, 170 USPQ 330.

The errors noted by the Examiner in claims 14, 18 and 19 have been corrected.

The applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 9-10, 15-18. Independent claims 1 and 11 have been limited to the feature of former claim 9, namely that the functional circuit derives an output from the acquisition digital phase locked loops according to a mathematical equation. The applicants reserve their right to pursue broader protection in a continuation application.

Reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

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Art Unit 2634
Amdt dated Dec. 7, 2004
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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard J. Mitchell', is written over a horizontal line.

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